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Subject: LSAC February 20th Meeting - MOVED to Week of March 18th
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Greetings Mid-Coast LSAC and TWG Members and Alternates –

Thank you for your participation at the LSAC meeting held December 12, 2012 at Oregon Community College in Newport.

DEQ and the Oregon Consensus facilitation team were planning to hold an LSAC meeting on February 20, but we have decided to delay that meeting until the week of March 18.

This date change will allow time for DEQ to more fully respond to two recent significant communications related to the Mid-Coast TMDLs development approaches, status and schedule:

- EPA and NOAA initial written assessment, required by the CZARA Settlement Agreement (December 21, 2012), and
- The request by representatives for timber and agricultural interests on the LSAC for a delay (January 15, 2013)

DEQ plans to address the issues raised in each of these communications as fully as possible in the near future. We concluded that March would be an appropriate time to engage the LSAC and TWG members in those discussions. Meanwhile, we plan to continue certain technical work on TMDLs development involving the LSAC and TWGs, including:

- the Bacteria TWG is scheduled to meet on February 14,
- scheduling the Biocriteria method/reference sites follow-up discussion with those members that expressed interest, and
- planning for a Sediment TWG meeting on March 20.

More information on these latter two meetings will be distributed once details are available, along with a revised LSAC/TWG meeting schedule. DEQ will also provide an update to LSAC participants on the status of work related to each of the three impairments/TWGs as soon as possible.

We appreciate your continued participation and patience as we negotiate a complicated process. If you have questions, please contact me or our facilitation team.

cheers

Gene Foster

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